

## MUSLIM BAN LANDS IN U.S. COURT

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JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE



## TRAGIC SECRET

Woman found guilty of hiding her babies' remains in a storage locker  
metroNEWS

## Indigenous advisers want Browaty booted

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

### Councillor still in hot water over comments on sensitivity training



Stephanie Taylor  
Metro | Winnipeg

Mayor Brian Bowman is facing renewed pressure to remove Jeff Browaty from his post as chairman of the Winnipeg Police Board after the councillor made comments that employees shouldn't take sensitivity training on the legacy of Indian residential schools.

Browaty was appointed head of the Winnipeg Police Board back in November.

Weeks later, on the floor of council, Browaty questioned the need to train city workers on the legacy of residential schools — a comment he quickly apologized for following a backlash on social media.

"Taking away or paying employees overtime to attend this type of training, taking them away from cutting

the grass, filling potholes, providing the services we count on, I don't think that is our position," Browaty said at the time.

Afterwards, Mayor Brian Bowman met with members of his Indigenous Advisory Circle, who raised concerns about Browaty's comments, but ultimately recommended that he stay as chairman.

The circle advised Browaty to meet with elders and discuss the impact his words have had on reconciliation efforts and the community.

They also recommended that he receive further education of residential schools in addition to the training he has already committed to.

However, the Indigenous Council on Policing and Crime Prevention, a 14-person group that advises the police board, thought otherwise, according to member Damon Johnston, who also sits on the mayor's Indigenous Advisory Circle.

"They didn't feel that what he did was acceptable," Johnston said, who added that he personally wants to see Browaty stay.

Johnston says that advice has been communicated to the board.

Board member Coun. Ross Eadie says

Bowman requested the police board submit a formal letter outlining whether members think Browaty should be removed. Only the mayor has the power to remove a committee chairperson.

"The police board has been meeting and discussing it for some time now and the ultimate decision will be made public as the mayor said when he receives a letter," Eadie said Monday.

"It is my expectation that you will either know by the end of the day or tomorrow morning," he said of the board's decision.

As of Monday morning, Bowman said he had yet to receive a letter, but confirmed he did meet with Barry Tuckett, vice-chairman of the police board on Friday, adding the nature of their conversation is private.

"I've sought the council of my Indigenous Advisory Circle, I've accepted the councillor's public apology," Bowman said of Browaty.

Bowman added the Indigenous Council on Policing and Crime Prevention is one the "many stakeholders" who have raised concerns about the status of Browaty as police board chairman. WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police board analysis, p. 2



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# Non-profit fundraising to keep popup shelter open

COMMUNITY

## Osborne Village church a refuge from the cold for homeless



**Braeden Jones**  
Metro | Winnipeg

Just a warm place to sleep.

That's all local non-profit 1 Just City is trying to offer the city's homeless population with their latest initiative, according to fund developer Tessa Blaikie Whitecloud.

Earlier this winter, she and her colleagues at 1 Just City — which supports four different outreach sites in Winnipeg's core with meal programs and a litany of other services — were floored when a woman caught in the cold died one frigid night in downtown Winnipeg.

Following that tragedy, and a callout from local advocates for Winnipeggers to let their relatives in from the cold, Whitecloud and 1 Just City began opening the doors of Augustine United Church in Osborne Village to the homeless. They've done so every night since Jan. 28, and now they're fundraising to keep doing so until the end of March.

"We're open as an emergency response," Whitecloud said. "We opened to those people who for some reason or another aren't



Local organization 1 Just City is looking for 64 donors to offer \$250 a piece to help keep its emergency response shelter open until March 31. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

able to make the 45-minute walk from (Osborne Village area) to the nearest shelter (the Salvation Army Booth Centre)."

Augustine United donated the space, and the Salvation Army donated sleep mats, while 1 Just City partnered with the Indigenous-owned and operated Bear Paw Security to be key holders, keep the peace, and open



**Our most consistent regular recently donated \$20 of his own panhandling income.**

Tessa Blaikie Whitecloud

and shut the doors, along with around 23 volunteers.

Whitecloud said the funds raised during 1 Just City's ongoing campaign are meant to cover the costs of that security contract, as well as cleaning and laundry supplies.

She's looking for 64 donors or "heroes" to personally contribute or pledge \$250 each to keep

the emergency response shelter open until March 31.

Since opening the emergency shelter, she said there have been about seven regular visitors, just about half of their 15-bed capacity. For those people, she said it's been a welcome addition to the neighbourhood.

"It's appreciated," she said. "One of the gentlemen I would consider our most consistent regular recently donated \$20 of his own panhandling income ... we said, 'You don't need to do that, we're happy to provide this,' but he said 'Well, I really want to do this because it's meant so much to me... to sleep inside and be warm this winter.'"

"So we think it's an important thing to be doing."

Whitecloud explained the next step after this winter will be to work "collaboratively with End Homelessness Winnipeg" to make sure the popup shelter is meeting a need and not duplicating a service.

"Obviously we have people coming so it's needed, how can we continue to make sure that need is met? If it's us again, we'll figure it out, if it isn't us, who do we contribute to in order to make this happen?" she said. "We believe in the non-profit sector working together to serve Winnipeg... Our goal is to make sure those in Winnipeg who are feeling underloved and sleeping out in the cold have more warm spaces, and feel more love from Winnipeggers."

POLICE BOARD

## Browaty the latest in trouble



**Stephanie Taylor**  
Metro | Winnipeg

Another year, and another member of the Winnipeg Police Board has found themselves in hot water.

It was early 2016 when Coun. Ross Eadie got himself suspended from the board after spending a night in the drunk-tank, reported to have acted belligerently towards responding officers.

A little over a year later it's new chairman Coun. Jeff Browaty who's in trouble.

The police board's Indigenous Council on Policing and Crime Prevention recently said Browaty's comments on residential school training for city employees were unacceptable (he said such training is unnecessary for grass cutters and pothole fillers). That's according to member Damon Johnston, who also sits on the Mayor's Indigenous Advisory Circle that chose to forgive Browaty.

Call it a coincidence, but the police board is gaining a reputation for being the place where the words, behaviours and political manoeuvring of those seated around the table are put under a spotlight for the public.

These examples stand as proof power can be called out. And politicians and bureaucrats have to own up for their personal actions.

It's a heartwarming display of accountability when these frank discussions happen in the public realm — even when government bodies would rather avoid airing any dirty laundry.

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# City's first cycle café gearing up

BUSINESS

**Owner marries love of bicycles with fondness for coffee beans**



**Braeden Jones**  
Metro | Winnipeg

Like peanut butter and jelly, Tim Woodcock figures coffee and bicycles were just meant to be together, which is why he's opened the city's first cycle café in Old St. Vital.

He learned about the pairing during his years spent racing bikes around Europe, where he says "the cycling culture is to go have a cappuccino or espresso, go out for a ride, then post-ride go back for a coffee."

Around the world, bike racing teams meet at cafés before training sessions, and many high-profile teams have coffee company sponsors.

Eventually, coffee and biking cultures merged to provide a "cycle café" experience.

"It's really about community," Woodcock said.

However, as is often the case with cycling trends across the pond and in more pedal-friendly North American cities, the cycle café concept was late arriving in Winnipeg. Not for lack of interest, though.

As Woodcock is an aficion-



Avid cyclist and café connoisseur Tim Woodcock has added a café to his bike shop. LYLE STAFFORD/FOR METRO

ado of both bikes and bean brews, and as the owner of Woodcock Cycle Works, he's been itching to unite his two passions for about a decade.

For two years he's been testing coffees and machines to "get it right" (choosing an

espresso machine from the World Barista Championship, and a deluxe grinder from Germany). He even developed a house blend.

With those pieces in place, he opened the cycle café in his St. Mary's Road store, just be-

fore the first snow in October. "We didn't want to rush it," he said.

Since the "soft launch" in October, and during the bike shop's admittedly less active winter season, he and his staff have been dialling in

the cycle café to ensure peak performance this spring and, most importantly, this summer, when Woodcock Cycle Works plans to celebrate its 30th anniversary.

"It's been a good thing, it's allowed us to get our feet

wet, get comfortable with the added traffic flow, the coffee equipment and everything," Woodcock said. "Summertime is when we're going to really start pushing it now that everything is in place."

In addition to the house blend, the café will feature high-quality guest coffees from all over, including local roasters like Dogwood and Black Pearl. Soon, it will also offer Nitro Coffee, kegged and nitrogen-cooled iced coffee drinks that pour with head like a Guinness beer, "more of a summer thing."

Woodcock's goal, in addition to introducing Winnipeg to the "cycle café" culture and strengthening the biking community with a one-stop hub, is "to get more and more people trying quality coffee."

"Now when someone is in getting a bike repaired, or going out for a ride or whatever, they know they can come in and have a good cup of coffee, look around the shop... people can come in, gather, talk about cycling, look at some nice bikes, and just hang out."

Woodcock said more information on the cycle café and anniversary celebrations will be announced closer to the summer, when he and his massive former warehouse of a bike shop will be waiting for cyclists and coffee lovers to pour in so he can pour them a (perfectly brewed) cup.

**"People can come in, gather, talk about cycling, look at some nice bikes."**

Tim Woodcock

RECREATION

## Brave souls sign up for International Winter Bike to Work Day

Pedal-powered commuters anxiously awaiting this summer's annual bike-to-work day can get their fix early, as the winter version of the event takes place this week.

On Friday Feb. 10, cyclists in Winnipeg will participate

in the International Winter Bike to Work Day, which has become somewhat of a global competition between participating cities.

Anyone who plans on riding their bike to work or school on the specified day is invited to

"commit" on the event's official website — every commitment adds up, and each city registered to compete is ranked based on projected participation levels.

Presently, Winnipeg is ranked 11th worldwide, situ-

ating it in the top 25 cities overall, but right behind other Canadian cities including Montreal, Calgary, and Kelowna.

Bike Winnipeg director Mark Cohoe said Winnipeg has a strong contingent of hardy cyclists who have braved win-

ter temperatures for the past four iterations of the event, and he expects this year to be no different.

As of Monday, 90 people in Winnipeg had committed to participate.

BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

**90**

Number of people who had signed up for the winter version of the bike-to-work-day as of Monday.



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# Woman guilty of hiding dead babies

TRIAL

## Defence awaits sentencing on six counts of concealment

A judge has determined that a woman secretly delivered six babies at or near full-term and stashed their remains in a U-Haul storage locker.

Provincial court Judge Murray Thompson convicted Andrea Giesbrecht on six counts of concealing the body of a dead child. Each carries a maximum two years in jail.

He said the infants were likely to have been born alive but, because they were badly decomposed, medical experts could not determine how they had died.

"All of her actions lead to one conclusion: that Giesbrecht was aware that these children were likely to have been born alive and she wished to conceal the fact of their birth," Thompson said Monday in his decision, which was live-streamed from the Winnipeg courthouse by the media.

"The evidence leaves no doubt that she concealed her pregnancies and the resulting delivery of each of the six children."

The judge allowed Giesbrecht to remain free on bail. A sentencing hearing is to be set later.

"She's happy that the case is finally coming to a conclusion," defence lawyer Greg Brodsky said outside court. "She's not happy with the ... conclusion but she's happy that it's coming to an end." He said he will wait until sentencing to decide whether to appeal.

Giesbrecht was arrested in October 2014 after she defaulted on paying rent for the storage locker. Staff, who were to auction off its contents, opened a plastic bin and noticed a strange smell.

Police were called and discovered the remains in garbage bags and other containers inside the locker. Giesbrecht was not charged with killing the children.

One baby had been put in a pail under concrete, while another was covered in a white powder that slowed decomposition but dried out the body and left it rock hard.

The judge said police, who could not compel Giesbrecht to supply a DNA sample, retrieved a sanitary napkin from her bedroom with a search warrant. Tests showed she was the mother of the six children — five boys and one girl. Witnesses testified she hadn't told anyone about the



Lawyer Greg Brodsky speaks to media outside the Law Courts in Winnipeg after his client Andrea Giesbrecht was found guilty on Monday of concealing six dead babies in a storage locker. TREVOR HAGAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

pregnancies.

Thompson noted that Giesbrecht knew about being pregnant and delivering babies. She had her two children in hospital.

She also had 10 legal abortions.

The judge noted there were no medical records of the pregnancies relating to the charges. THE CANADIAN PRESS

REVIEW HEARING

## Man who beheaded passenger likely to stay on medication, says doctor

A psychiatrist testified Monday that a schizophrenic man who beheaded and cannibalized a fellow passenger on a Greyhound bus is unlikely to go off his medication because he doesn't want his disease to take over again.

Manitoba's Criminal Code Review Board is being asked to grant Will Baker, formerly known as Vince Li, an absolute discharge, meaning he would no longer be subject to any conditions.

Baker was found not criminally responsible in the killing of Tim McLean in 2008.

Baker's doctor, Jeffrey Waldman, told the board that he is confident Baker will remain on his medication and will continue to work with his treatment team if released. Waldman testified that Baker knows it's the medication that keeps his illness at bay.

That should be enough to grant Baker his freedom, argued lawyer Alan Libman.

"We've heard over and over



Will Baker, formerly Vince Li, leaves the Law Courts building in Winnipeg, after his annual criminal code review board hearing on Monday. TREVOR HAGAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

again about Mr. Baker's commitment to taking his medication, his commitment to physical and mental health, and his commitment to making sure he's never in a position where his reality is different than the rest of us," Libman told the board.

"He never wants to be in a situation where he could cause harm to himself or others."

Waldman said Baker plans to visit his native China if released but would live in Winnipeg for the next two to three years. He is on the waiting list for a training program and plans on establishing a career in the city.

The Crown, which was refused a delay in the hearing to better prepare for the discharge request, is opposed to Baker's release.

Crown lawyer Mary Goska urged the board to think of the horror of the offence.

"Mr. Baker spontaneously committed an offence against Tim McLean — a young man who was a stranger to him — and what ultimately occurred was beyond tragic and extremely devastating to many people," she said.

McLean's mother, Carol de Delley, has been outspoken against granting Baker freedom, saying there would be no way to ensure he continued to take his medication.

She reiterated that after Monday's hearing.

"What if he chooses to stop his medication again? In a nutshell, I don't believe that should be his choice to make anymore," she said outside court.

"A secure facility where he can continue to receive treatment for the rest of his natural life is where he belongs."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Trudeau's youth role being overshadowed

POLITICS

## Critics say he has mixed record on portfolio

After winning the last federal election, the fresh-faced new prime minister, the second youngest ever to assume the office, bestowed upon himself a fitting extra portfolio: Minister of Youth.

One of his first acts was to publish mandate letters for each of his cabinet ministers. They outline for all to see what important work Trudeau expected from his ministers in the coming months and years.

But there was — and still is — a striking omission. While some relevant platform points were included in his missives to ministers in finance and labour, Trudeau published no mandate letter for his self-imposed gig. And none appeared when the letters were refreshed after his January cabinet shuffle.

More than a year into the Lib-



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Liberal President Anna Gainey, left, and Liberal Youth President Mira Ahmad at the 2016 Liberal Biennial Convention in Winnipeg. THE CANADIAN PRESS

erals' majority mandate, a sense has emerged that rather than bringing welcome gravitas and attention to the issues facing young people today, Trudeau the Prime Minister is overshadowing Trudeau the Youth Minister.

He has a mixed-record on fulfilling the youth-oriented promises of his party's 2015 platform. In October, the sociable and still-high-polling PM was heckled during an on-stage interview with

young members of the Canadian Labour Congress, after outrage was spewed over the finance minister's comment that "job churn" — having to move from job to job over the course of your career — is an intractable part of the 21st century economy.

At the same time, student activists are decrying his performance on accessibility-to-education, as tuition and student debt spike to record heights and youth

unemployment stubbornly remains almost double the rate of the total population.

"This government pays a lot of lip service to youth," said Bilan Arte, president of the Canadian Federation of Students, which advocates for free post-secondary education. "We're not just a voting block that can be accessed every other election."

Whether such criticism is fair is up for debate. Vasiliki Bednar, head of the government's Expert Panel on Youth Employment that was created last fall, said Trudeau's decision to appoint himself youth minister showed issues such as tuition, student debt and youth unemployment are a priority for the government.

She added that the "job churn" comment was an honest portrayal of the reality facing young workers.

"A government that pretends that's not a reality, and designs programs for quote-unquote 'standard work,' which is full-time forever jobs, is not a government that I want, because that's an unrealistic, fantasy government," Bednar said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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EQUALITY

# Six-year-old Elliott is leading the way in gender education



Elliott Sweeny, 6, is schooling Halifax about gender and bodies. JEFF HARPER/METRO



Haley Ryan  
Metro | Halifax

Elliott Sweeny loves dogs, banana bread, Beyoncé, sometimes wearing skirts, and pink rainboots. In the Halifax six-year-old's words, Elliott also says they have a "boy body and a girl brain."

Curled up on a couch with their mom Kym Sweeny at the South House Sexual and Gender

Resource Centre, Elliott said they usually don't mind explaining how they identify as gender fluid and gender-nonconforming, or use "they/them" pronouns — but kids don't always believe them and can say mean things.

"You can't just be bullies just because you don't know what things are, and just because you don't think it's right — because it actually is right," Elliott said.

Kym said some people on the radio were talking about

women's periods in a joking way. When Elliott asked if people made fun of menstruation because they didn't understand it, Kym said "sometimes."

The next day Elliott asked for magazines to make a collage about things people should know more about, adding glitter and photos of Beyoncé and trans actress Laverne Cox next to words like consent, racism, gender and decolonization — which they asked for help writing.

They went to South House to plan a community event, which developed into a series of pop-up schools, with the first one on gender taking place this month.

All the pop-ups will have a kid or young adult paired with a "grown-up" to talk about topics they're experts in, Kym said, followed by activities and relevant book-reading while the parents and caregivers can talk about their experiences raising gender-nonconforming or LGBTQ kids.



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## SENATE

## Democrats hold floor in protest

Democrats announced plans Monday to hold the Senate floor around the clock to protest Republicans' push to confirm President Donald Trump's cabinet picks.

Democrats' effort got underway as the Senate headed toward a showdown vote Tuesday on Education Secretary nominee Betsy DeVos, a wealthy GOP donor who has advocated for alternatives to public education. DeVos' nomination has drawn particularly fierce opposition from teachers' unions and others.

Two GOP senators have announced plans to oppose her, which could result in a 50-50 Senate vote Tuesday.

That would leave Vice-President Mike Pence in the role of tie-breaker, something that has never happened with a cabinet nominee in the Senate's history.

"Democrats will hold the floor for the next 24 hours until the final vote to do everything we can to persuade just one more Republican to join us," Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., said on the floor around mid-day Monday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# U.S. Justice Department pushes to reinstate ban

## POLITICS

## States argue Muslim ban would 'unleash chaos again'

The fierce battle over President Donald Trump's travel and refugee ban edged up the judicial escalator Monday, headed for a possible final faceoff at the Supreme Court. Travellers, temporarily unbound, tearfully reunited with loved ones at U.S. airports.

The Justice Department prepared to ask a San Francisco-based federal appeals court to restore Trump's ban on travellers from seven predominantly Muslim nations. The lawyers were expected to argue in a brief that the president, not the courts, has the authority to set national security policy and that an executive order to control access at the country's borders is lawful.

The filing with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals was to be the latest salvo in a



Nazanin Zinouri, 29, is greeted at the airport in Greer, S.C., on Monday. Zinouri, an Iranian engineer and Clemson University graduate, had been unable to return to the U.S. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

high-stakes fight surrounding Trump's order, which was halted Friday by a federal judge in Washington state.

The appeals court refused to immediately reinstate the ban, and lawyers for Washington and Minnesota argued anew Monday that any resumption would "unleash chaos again," separating families and stranding students.

Telephone oral arguments

have been scheduled for Tuesday afternoon. The San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will hear from lawyers from the federal government and states suing Trump.

The president's executive order has faced legal uncertainty ever since Friday's ruling by U.S. District Judge James Robart, which challenged both Trump's authority and his abil-

ity to fulfil a campaign promise.

The State Department quickly said people from the seven countries could travel to the U.S. if they had valid visas.

States challenging the ban have been joined by technology companies, who have said it makes it more difficult to recruit employees, and by attorneys general from more than a dozen states. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## GLOBAL DIGEST

## AFGHANISTAN

### Ransom could have freed hostages, says report

A new report claims that Canadian Joshua Boyle, his American wife, Caitlan Coleman, and their two young sons could have been freed for a \$150,000 ransom, but that the FBI did not pursue the deal with their kidnappers.

According to two unnamed American "officials directly involved in the case," VOX reported Monday that a Taliban representative had told U.S. military negotiators of the proposed deal, but that when news was relayed to the FBI, "the agency never followed up."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## UNITED KINGDOM

### Elizabeth II marks 65 years as queen

Queen Elizabeth II has become the first British monarch to reach the milestone of 65 years on the throne.

Monday's Sapphire Jubilee is being marked with cannon salutes in London's Green Park and at the Tower of London.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Firms 'violate' wireless code

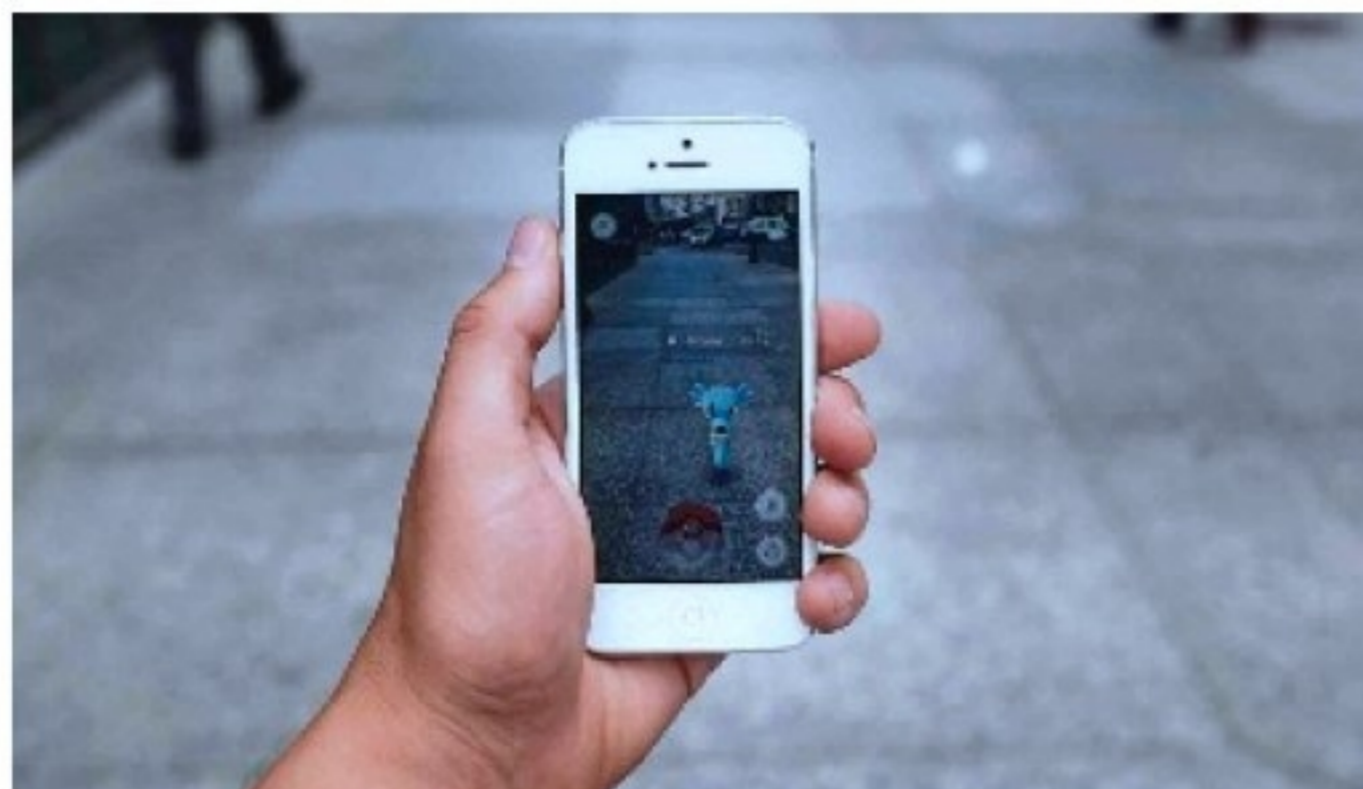
## TECHNOLOGY

### Force service providers to live up to rules, watchdog told

Some cellphone companies are either passively or actively violating Canada's wireless code of conduct and the rules need to be tightened and enforced, consumer groups told a hearing Monday.

While consumer complaints have dropped since the code came into effect in 2013, the Public Interest Advocacy Centre told the review wireless users need greater controls put in place so they don't suffer from "bill shock."

"Certain wireless service providers have ... knowingly or unknowingly avoided or violated or attempted to change clear wireless code requirements, and have not largely been stopped," advocacy centre executive director John Lawford told the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission. "This must change."



The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission is reviewing its four-year-old wireless code of conduct this week in Gatineau, Que. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The CRTC review comes amid calls for greater parental control over household cellphone data charges and clearer rules governing wireless service cancellation fees and how caps on data overage fees should apply.

Speaking on behalf of the Consumer Association of Can-

ada, the National Pensioners Federation and the Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of British Columbia, PIAC told the regulator that, in some cases, wireless providers offer data and voice as optional services, despite stipulations in the code that key services be clearly spelled out in wire-

less contracts.

"(This) is not only vastly inappropriate and skewed against the consumer, but clearly contradicts the spirit and letter of the wireless code," said PIAC legal counsel Alysia Lau.

"Data and voice services clearly form a key part of a wireless contract."

The first code effectively killed three-year phone contracts, limiting them to 24 months. But that led, in many cases, to higher monthly bills as the service providers were forced to recoup the cost of subsidized smartphones over a shorter period.

While Telus Corp., has suggested the CRTC revisit the two-year limit, arguing that providing a three-year contract option could reduce monthly bills by amortizing the cost of so-called zero-dollar phones over 36 months, BCE Inc., and Rogers Communications Inc., have not specifically proposed changes to contract length provisions.

Carriers also want to be able to recoup the cost of items offered for free to customers as incentives to sign a contract.

Currently, service providers can charge consumers for the residual value of subsidized cellphone hardware if they cancel their contracts early. For example, a customer could be charged \$300 if they cancel a two-year contract after one year, if the initial value of the incentivized phone was set at \$600. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## STATISTICS CANADA

### Census data kicks off

On Wednesday, Statistics Canada will release the first batch of data from the 2016 census.

The release — the first of seven data dumps — will detail the population as it stood on May 10, 2016; those regions where population levels or climbing and falling; and where new homes are being built.

The population counts determine how much money Ottawa transfers to provinces and territories for services like health care and how much it sends to cities for infrastructure work through the federal gas tax fund.

Demographers use the information to see how the country is changing. Multinationals like Starbucks and Tim Hortons use the data to decide where to place their next store.

Census information lets urban planners know where people are living so they can better plan for transit, roads, hospitals, schools and new residential units. Local land-use decisions like zoning bylaws are also based on census data.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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## MICHAEL COREN ON MILO'S MISSION TO DIVIDE



**At Berkeley, most of those protesting were peaceful and responsible but, as is so common, the extremes were triumphant. Two sets of fanatics had their way: those who disrupted the speech and those who planned it.**

This year marks the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, sparked in part by the Roman Catholic Church's sale of indulgences. The more you paid, the less time you and your loved ones spent in purgatory. As the rhyme of the time had it, "As soon as a coin in the coffer rings/the soul from purgatory springs."

I couldn't help thinking of all this when reading of the sordid events at The University of California, Berkeley last week when a planned speech by the ultra right-wing narcissist and professional provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos was cancelled after around 150 masked thugs used fireworks, baseball bats and various forms of violence to attack those attending the event.

Milo — he and his acolytes rather ludicrously use the single name — is senior editor for the far right website Breitbart News. He is a bit of a legend in his own lunchtime, and most people have never heard of him, but for the hard right and the hard left he is an icon of either truth or lies. Actually he is neither. A fringe journalist with a troubled past, he reinvented himself as a self-defining fierce, fearless spokesman for those waging war against the chimera of political correctness.

His means of fighting this war against an imaginary foe is to insult and mock anybody who annoys him. Liberals, feminists, the overweight, trans people, Muslims, gays — even though he is himself gay and insists on using the term



**SEWER SPOKESMAN** Far-right icon Milo Yiannopoulos is fighting a fake crusade against made-up enemies: feminists, trans people, Muslims and anyone else he doesn't like, Michael Coren writes.

JEREMY PAPASSO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"f—t." It all becomes somewhat tedious but it arouses those who obviously would like to do the same but lack the ability or the platform. He is a conduit for those who confuse freedom of speech with the licence to abuse. The sewers breathe once again.

At Berkeley, most of those protesting were peaceful and responsible but, as is so common, the extremes were triumphant. I use the plural because two sets of fanatics had their way: those who disrupted the speech and those who planned it. You see, this is a dark symbiosis, a grotesque theatre of the absurd where the polarized of right and left destroy the vast middle of ground of sensible disagreement and debate.

And nothing, of course, makes the "coin in the coffer ring" as much as playing the victim and crying that free speech and liberty are under threat. There is money to be made in becoming a champion of white, straight, conservative people who have convinced themselves that they are being persecuted.

The violence at Berkeley,

and at other such events, is unacceptable. But there is violence in language as well as action. If one degrades a race, marginalizes a sexuality, condemns a people, there tend to be consequences. Surely the recent obscene events in Quebec City taught us that. One fist can do damage; one broadcast, article or Internet rant can lead to a lot more.

Idiots provoke and idiots are provoked. Milo, and for that matter his banal imitators in Canada, have to establish a false problem if they are to set themselves up as the solution. Build it and they will come.

So if you claim that Islamic extremists are everywhere, that we can no longer speak our minds, that media conspiracies are preventing us from knowing the truth, and that being a white man is considered a crime, enough credulous and insecure people will accept it and act accordingly. Witness the election of Donald Trump.

In actual fact there are genuine dilemmas about speech, tolerance, the meeting place of secular pluralism and

religion ideas, and the way we deal with justice and equality issues, and these are intensely sensitive and delicate.

It's because of that sensitivity and delicacy that we have to respond with empathy, compassion, intelligence and responsibility. Screaming is easy, listening far more difficult; outrage satisfies hysteria and anger; consideration fulfils the intellect and the soul.

The hoodlums in California will be punished and Milo will fade away before most of us even knew he was there. The same, God willing, will happen to those Canadian rightists who assume they're being rebellious when they're just childish conformists. But some of the divisions caused will take longer to heal and that's difficult to forgive.

Personally, I'd just ignore these clownish performers. As for the coins in the coffer, integrity is far more valuable than money.

**Michael Coren** is the author of *Epiphany: A Christian's Change of Heart and Mind Over Same-Sex Marriage*.

## We don't need to be American to be racist

### INSIDE THE PERIMETER

Shannon VanRaes



Canada is not America.

Although in recent weeks you might not know it. Tune into just about any Canadian newscast and President Donald Trump is the leading story — American President Donald Trump. Although actually adding the word "American" has become unnecessary in a news cycle so heavily dominated by the federation to our south.

Perhaps now more than ever, Pierre Trudeau's 1969 analogy that living next to the United States "is in some ways like sleeping with an elephant" is an apt description of the unbalanced relationship between our two nations. Even for a Canadian who's had a lifetime of exposure to American culture, today's rising tide of U.S. political turmoil leaves one gasping for fresh air.

And yet, it's not as though we can sleep comfortably by turning our backs on the increasingly unstable and nationally inclined elephant. U.S. policy affects us directly or indirectly, and no blatant affront to human rights can be ignored in good conscience.

Besides, who among us has the willpower to turn away from a train wreck so spectacular?

But as Canadians we can't be so blinded by the inferno on our border that we lose sight of our own trajectory, strengths and weaknesses. Nor can we continue to define ourselves solely in terms of difference from the United States. Being a Canadian is more than not being American.

When Prime Minister Justin Trudeau tweeted that Canada

accepts those fleeing terror and war regardless of faith in response to Trump's travel ban, it was a warm and fuzzy affirmation that Canada is kinder, more compassionate and more progressive than America. It said, don't worry, Canada is a better place. Only, in many ways we are not.

Yes, Canada has opened its doors to refugees, and in 2016 about 300,000 immigrants landed on our shores.

Canada, too, is simmering with right-wing ideology. From the Zero Tolerance for Barbaric Cultural Practices Act to Kellie Leitch's proposed test for "Canadian values," to Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister's "race war" comments, Canadian politicians have not shied away from xenophobic rhetoric.

A 2015 report by CSIS identified white nationalists as Canada's biggest security threat, but the issue quickly faded from the political landscape — at least until the tragic murder of six Muslim men as they prayed at a mosque in Quebec City last week.

As Canadians, we were eager to discuss right-wing ideology south of the border, tut-tutting, posting memes and signing petitions in the weeks leading up to that attack, but we were not nearly as motivated to take a hard look at the hate that is growing untended in our backyard.

Canada's bigotry is not the child of American politics — whatever southern winds now fan the flames of hate — it was Canadian-born and Canadian-raised. Now, it's only love and introspection that can prevent it from coming of age.

Yes, Canada is welcoming those from beyond our borders, but we also need to take a hard look at what is happening within them.

**Screaming is easy, listening far more difficult.**

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# Behind the swinging curtains

## SEXUALITY

### Polyamorous advocates love openness...just follow the rules

Toronto's Oasis Aqualounge is a pretty open environment. The clothing-optional sex club hosts events each week for people to explore their sexual fantasies. But for such a liberal venue, there are certainly a lot of rules.

No photos. Certain areas are off limits to men unless accompanied by a woman. No touching of any kind unless given permission. No means no, of course, but the club takes it a step further: only yes means yes. That means there are no sexy times until consent is verbalized, says Fatima Mechtab, the marketing and events coordinator at Oasis, which had approximately 16,000 members last year.

The clothing-optional space, where sex is allowed, is by its nature vulnerable, she says. The rules are to make sure everyone feels safe, comfortable and encourage people to talk. "A big problem with consent is people assume it's something you don't have to verbalize," she says.

In fact, when it comes to



**Fatima Mechtab, marketing and events coordinator at Oasis Aqualounge, the Toronto adult playground.** TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

sex, there's lots that people don't talk about — but should.

Mechtab, a queer woman who has explored swinging and polyamorous relationships in the past, says these types of strict rules are common in "the lifestyle," a term for consensually non-monogamous couples. And, she says, rules make relationships better.

Couples and the locations they go to play have to create

an environment in which all parties feel not only safe, but also heard.

These boundaries take away the grey areas, forcing couples to say what they do or don't want and what they need from sexual encounters. And there's a lot non-swingers can learn from them about building a healthy (and satisfied) relationship.

A successful swinging re-

lationship is based on constant communication, says Carol Hunt, founder of Venus-Couples, a Montreal-based online forum for "sex-positive" exploration of the lifestyle. She and her husband have been swinging for a decade. Before any party or outing, they agree upon a set of boundaries (such as they'll always be in the same room during sex) and expectations for the evening (be it sex

with another person or a night observing others).

Afterwards, they always break their experience down: what they liked, what they didn't like, and what would they like to try in the future?

While it might seem exhausting to always talk about sex, Hunt says it means both parties feel their needs are being heard. If her husband wants to try something new, but she's not interested, the decision isn't shut down entirely. Instead, they discuss both points of view and try and find a happy middle ground in which they can explore. No always means no — but that's only the start of the conversation.

That consensus-building trickles out of the bedroom, says Edward Fernandes, a professor of sexuality specializing in swingers, at Barton University in North Carolina.

"I've had people say, 'We used to have trouble with our finances — we couldn't talk about this — and once we went into swinging, that went away,'" says the Toronto expat. "People will often avoid talking about things, because they don't know how (their partner) is going to respond," says Fernandes. "So we hide. Swinging tends to pull that curtain."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## SPICING IT UP

Carol Hunt suggests couples looking to spice up their bedroom can start small:

- Make it a point to go to a sex shop to discuss what both parties might enjoy or not. To avoid embarrassment, make it a rule that neither party can wander off on their own: you're in it together.

- Watching porn can be a great way to get both parties in the mood. But before hitting play, Hunt suggests setting expectations: you'll only watch for an hour, and pick one act to try and recreate.

- If you're trying something new and don't enjoy it the first time, Hunt says don't shut it down right away. Commit to revisiting the act at least once at a later date.

- Great relationships need work. Set aside a couple hours each week just to be with each other. No television, no distractions (and if you want, no clothes). TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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# Say it then spread it: love is the word

**Sofi Papamarko**  
Torstar News Service

I love you. There. I said it. That wasn't so hard, right? Those three little words — three syllables, really — are among the most coveted and most difficult words to say in the English language.

Context: I'd been having some trouble coming up with an idea for my Valentine's Day column this year and wrote my editor in a cold panic. "EMBRACE THE LOVE!" she exclaimed in all-caps.

I tried. But throwing my arms around a Hallmark holiday felt disingenuous. Valentine's Day can be a painful and lonely time for many. So instead of embracing February the 14th and all associated ephemeral trappings of romance, I'm embracing Pollyanna. I'm embracing the free expression of love itself.

And so, I love you.

You can usually find something — often multiple things — that are amazing in every person you meet. A genius sense of humour, maybe. An aching



vulnerability. Self-awareness. Intelligence. Loyalty to friends and family. Optimism. A strong work ethic. The best of intentions.

I love you, reader. Whoever you are. Not romantically, but emphatically. I love you, even though I don't know you.

I love you because you have worries that sometimes keep you up at night. I love you because you are a living and breathing human person and you are worthy of love, respect and dignity.

This Valentine's Day, embrace the love. Call your mom. Send a

postcard to your estranged brother. Make a generous donation to a women's shelter, homeless shelter, charity or other worthwhile cause close to your heart. In an era where suspicion, fear and division rule, being compassionate and loving is among the most radical and important things we can do. Let's strive to accept each other, look out for each other and, yes, love one another. I love you. Now pass it on.

Sofi Papamarko is a writer and matchmaker who lives in Toronto.

## COMEDY

### Spicer asks SNL to 'dial back' portrayal



**Andrew Fifield**  
Metro | Toronto

Despite the surfacing of Steve Bannon, White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer is arguably the most recognizable face of the Trump Administration.

This makes Spicer and his caustic, prop-peppered press conferences perfect fodder for Melissa McCarthy and the writers at Saturday Night Live.

McCarthy's briefing bullying received rave reviews after it aired over the weekend, but the actress shouldn't count Spicer himself among her fans.

Instead, the fiery face of the Trump White House suggested

McCarthy "could dial back" when Extra caught up with him on Super Bowl Sunday.

The press secretary appeared piqued by his doppelganger's mouthful of gum, a nod to Spicer's well-known penchant for cinnamon gum. He suggested the actress "needs to slow down on the gum chewing, way too many pieces in there."

But like a good soldier, Spicer rolled out a stronger defence when it came to his boss and Alec Baldwin's portrayal of him.

"Alec has gone from funny to mean, and that's unfortunate," Spicer lamented. "SNL used to be really funny. There's a streak of meanness now that they've crossed over to mean."



Melissa McCarthy (left) as Sean Spicer. CONTRIBUTED/FILE

## TV BRIEFS

**Hal and Jo's messy Diet**  
Suppose you're a massive streaming service that wants to encourage Canadians to watch your gory new black comedy with a health-conscious name. What do you do?

Well, if you're Netflix and your new show is the bizarre zombie comedy Santa Clarita Diet, the easy answer is you recruit Hal Johnson and Joanna McLeod, a pair imprinted on the brains of us all as the country's gently encouraging faces of health and fitness. Then you hand them a chainsaw.

So, without telling us anything at all about Santa Clarita Diet, the tidy two-minute promo of darkly funny training and terror should be enough to tell you whether you want to give the Diet a go.

Santa Clarita Diet, starring Drew Barrymore, premiered Feb. 3 on Netflix.

ANDREW FIFIELD/METRO

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## DAILY TREAT



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# Ecuador an attractive investment destination for real estate

## Cost of living three times lower than in Canada

Ecuador has become a popular destination for Canadian real-estate investors looking to retire under the sun. "Properties are much more affordable than in similar destinations," says Gordon Poole, vice-president of design and construction for the Canadian company HolaEcuador Property Development. "Now is the time to seize the opportunity." International Living magazine consistently ranks Ecuador among the world's top retirement destinations and best places for real-estate investment. Here are six reasons why hundreds of North Americans choose to own a second home or move to Ecuador:

**1. Affordability.** Where in the world can you find a luxurious oceanfront condominium for under \$200K? It's possible on the Pacific coast of Ecuador.

**2. Low cost of living.** Currently, the cost of living is about three times lower than in Canada.

**3. Excellent health care.** In its 2014 list of countries with the most efficient health-care, Bloomberg magazine ranked Ecuador number 13 in the world (Canada ranked 21st). Quality, affordable health care is available throughout the country. You can see a doctor trained in North America in less than an hour at most clinics.

**4. Climate.** Temperatures along the coast average 25 degrees year-round, without the extreme wet seasons common to the Tropics. Due to Ecuador's location at the equator, hurricanes are unlikely. The warm water offers pleasant bathing year round.

**5. Stability.** Ecuador is among the safest countries in Latin America and its currency is the U.S. dollar. Most expats who relocate to Ecuador can obtain permanent residency status in just nine months.

**6. The sights.** With UNESCO cities, endless sandy beaches, Amazon rainforests, the Andes and the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador is one of the most bio-diverse and eco-responsible places on the planet.



Ecuador is ranked among the world's best real-estate investments and a top retirement destination. CONTRIBUTED

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- **Winnipeg, Man.** – Saturday, Feb. 11, 10 a.m. Canad Inns Windsor Park, 1034 Elizabeth Rd.
- **Orleans, Ont.** – Saturday, Feb. 18, 10 a.m. Quality Inn Orleans, 3363 St. Joseph Blvd.
- **New Westminster, B.C.** – Saturday, Feb. 18, 10 a.m. Inn at the Quay, 900 Quayside Dr.
- **Vancouver, B.C.** – Tuesday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m. Best Western plus Chateau Granville, 1100 Granville St.

Space is limited, so prospective attendees are encouraged to register in advance. For more information and to register for a seminar, visit [holaecuador.ca](http://holaecuador.ca) or call (204) 202-9420.

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# AWARD WINNERS

## The best of Winnipeg: direct from the public

The easiest way to know you're making the best possible choice as a consumer is to get the advice of someone you trust — whether you're looking to make a big purchase like a new car or just looking for the best burger in town — a recommendation from a someone who knows can make all the difference. That's why Metro Winnipeg launched our Community Choice Awards last year. The Metro Winnipeg Community Choice Awards are a forum that gives



STOCK

Winnipeggers the chance to help their fellow Winnipeggers find the best of what this city has to offer in several categories including (but not limited to): Automotive, Food and Drink, Business or Service and Entertainment.

Just like you'd be more likely to check out a movie that's picked up an Academy Award, you can trust that a local business that's earned an

award — especially one like Metro's Community Choice Award that's handed out based on votes from the public — is worth checking out.

"This is an opportunity for the citizens of Winnipeg to celebrate and identify their favourite businesses and for us to be a part of shining the spotlight on the exemplary work being done locally in our business community," explains

Metro English Canada Vice President and Group Publisher - Western Canada, Steve Shrout.

In February 2016 we asked you to nominate your favourite local haunts — everything from food and festivals to lingerie shops and car washes — and then let the community vote on the winners. The response was overwhelming.

By the time we tallied the results a few months later we'd gotten more than 10,000 votes from Winnipeggers voicing their love and appreciation for their favourite shops, places, and businesses.

We published the results in special editions of Metro Winnipeg and all of the winners are featured online (check out the top picks at [winnipeg.metrocommunitychoice.com](http://winnipeg.metrocommunitychoice.com)).

The stories that follow profile a few of the winners, who are all proud to have been recognized by their customers for what they do every day and for what they bring to the community.

So whether you're looking for a great real estate agent, the city's most delicious slice of pizza, or Winnipeg's most hitting night club, take the advice of Winnipeggers who are in the know and check out these winners, you'll be glad you did.



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## G is for Glasses sharing their passion for unique eyewear

G is for Glasses is changing the way Winnipeggers see glasses and eye care.

The locally owned and one-of-a-kind store — there's occasionally a motorcycle parked in their showroom at 3-1176 Taylor Ave. — has been focused on sharing their passion for unique eyewear and quality eye care since shaking up the city's ocular landscape and opening up shop two-and-a-half years ago.

"Glasses are a medical necessity but they're also a fashion accessory," says Bonni O'Hara, who owns G is for Glasses along with her cousin and optometrist, Dr. Jessie Fillmore. "We want the feel of the store to let people have a little fun — it doesn't have to be so serious — this can be a very fun industry."

G is for Glasses unique approach to eyewear and eye care led readers of Metro Winnipeg to give them the paper's 2016 Consumer's Choice award for best Optical Store.

On the retail side G is for Glasses' collection includes iconic and luxury eyewear and sunglasses from both pioneers of the industry and the latest styles from independent designers.

"We like to buy from designers that you won't find at the major chain stores," explains O'Hara. "The brands we carry are



CONTRIBUTED

independent, just like we are."

And as the resident optometrist, Dr. Fillmore provides full-service eye care including comprehensive eye exams, management of ocular diseases, and contact lens fitting for individuals of all ages at the shop.

Visit [gisforglasses.com](http://gisforglasses.com) to see their full line of products and to make an appointment.

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The high-performance flooring is available in traditional woods, rustics, exotics and modern tile looks, and while its 100 per cent waterproof core and scratch-resistant surface make it the perfect choice for pet owners, Curtis Carpets operation manager, Tim Pariseau, says because it's less expensive than hardwood and more durable, it's a popular option for a wide-range of customers as well.

Another big selling point for Adura Max LVP, says Pariseau, is that each 6"x48" plank is separate, meaning each piece can be replaced individually instead of having to rip up an entire vinyl floor.

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embossed with ridging to look just like hardwood, also make them easy to install in even the most challenging rooms.

Adura Max LVP comes in virtually every colour and species of hardwood, and because Curtis Carpets and much of their staff has been serving Winnipeg since 1980, they've got the expertise to help customers choose the right flooring option for their decor and make sure it's properly installed.

"We have a lot of installation crews here and between the people who work here we probably have over 200 years of experience in the flooring business," says Pariseau. "We've been in business for a very long time and we like to make sure things are done right the first time."

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# HIGHLIGHTING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE COMMUNITY

For Village Optical, being part of the community is just as important as making sure their patients and customers receive the highest quality vision care and service.

Village Optical's location at 1079 St. Mary's Road has been operated by the same owners for the last 20 years, and over that time staff have taken part in countless community programs — something they call 'Karma Projects' — here at home and around the world.

Whether it's donating used glasses to Third World countries, volunteering at Siloam Mission, sponsoring local sports teams, or making monthly donations to local charities, Village Optical's team of doctors and professionals strive to be a pillar of the community, says practice manager Val Weide.

"We have a generational-base of patients — we've seen grandparents, parents, and now their kids — they've grown up with us and we've grown with them," she explains. "A lot of our new patients come through recommendations from current patients, so giving back just makes sense for us."

The optometrists at Village Optical have a special interest in children's vision, treat dry

eye issues and are experienced in troubleshooting progressive lens issues, says Weide, adding the practice has all the latest equipment and expertise.

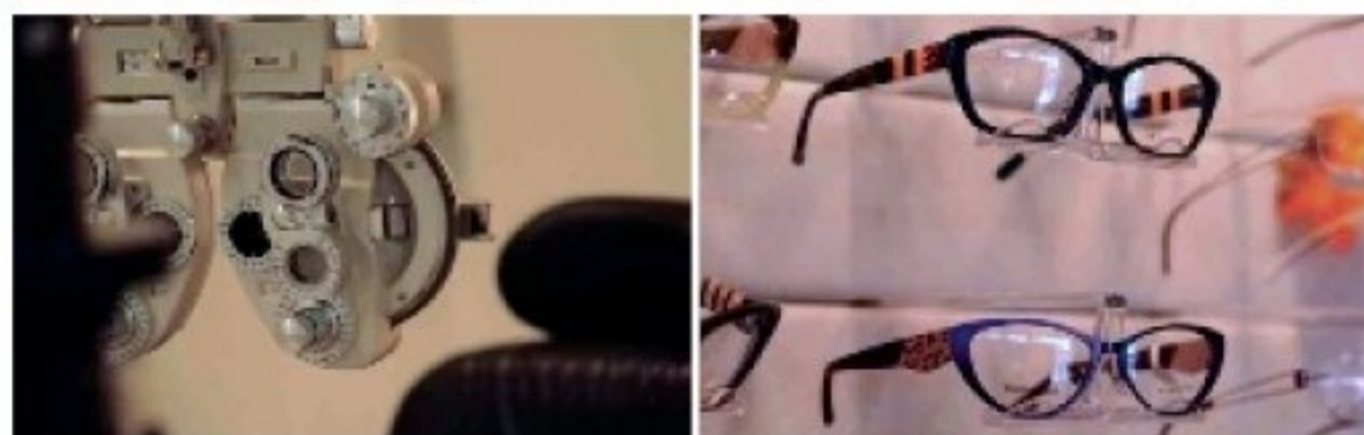
"Although we've been here for many, many years, we use the latest technology and techniques in maintaining and assisting our patients with their ocular health," she says.

As well as offering eye care services, Village Optical also has a full retail side offering a wide selection of eyeglass frames, contact lenses and sunglasses with a staff that are well-trained to help customers find the best fit for their specific needs.

"We have something for everyone," says Weide. "We're a one stop shop — from eye exam and referrals to actually buying your glasses — you can get it all done here."

Village Optical has just welcomed a new associate, Dr. Cody van Dijk to the practice. All doctors are currently accepting new patients.

Go to [villageoptical.ca](http://villageoptical.ca) to meet Village Optical's team of doctors and see a full list of the services and products they offer. To set up an appointment send an email to [village@villageoptical.ca](mailto:village@villageoptical.ca) or call the office at 204-253-9219.



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**Winnipeg Loves Village Optical**  
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*for vision care*

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AWARD WINNERS

## Community building from the ground up

Community building means more to McMunn & Yates Building Supplies than just being there to provide expert advice, friendly service, and quality building materials.

When Terry Yates and Stan and Gordon McMunn opened their first store in Dauphin, MB in 1971 they set out to build something larger than themselves — they wanted to help communities build, and to be part of helping strengthen the communities they serve — and that commitment to hometown values still drives what they do today at all 19 of their locations, including four in Winnipeg.

"We're all about community building and it's from the ground up," says Suzett Medeiros, marketing manager at McMunn and Yates, adding today McMunn & Yates is much more than

a lumber store. "If you're building a new house we can supply almost everything from the foundation and the roof trusses to the kitchen and flooring and we're there for smaller projects too — even if you're changing just a light bulb — we've got you covered."

McMunn & Yates' dedication to the community led customers to choose them as the winner of Metro Winnipeg's 2016 Community Choice Award in the Building Supplies & Home Improvement category.

"We pride ourselves on the service that we provide," Medeiros says. "So having the community vote for us is a wonderful feeling — it's what we want to hear every day." Go to [mcmunnandyates.com](http://mcmunnandyates.com) to find the location closest to you and see a full list of their products and services.



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# McMunn & Yates

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19 locations | [mcmunnandyates.com](http://mcmunnandyates.com)

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## Giving back to the community a driving force

Advanced Massage Therapy has picked up the 2017 Consumer's Choice Award for Massage Therapy, and while this is the second year in-a-row they've gotten the honour, owner Carla Foley says the award isn't what's important — for her and her staff giving back to Winnipeg is why they do what they do.

"We are very much focused on customer service, supporting local and shopping local, and just all around respecting Winnipeg for how good it's been to us," says Foley, who opened Advanced Massage

Therapy's first location at 2020-F Corydon Avenue in 2005, and their second location at 3-1682 Grant just over a year ago. "My heart and soul is really in this city and I really take pride in that."

Advanced Massage Therapy's Registered Massage Therapists are dedicated to helping Winnipeggers relax, no matter when they have time to stop in. Both locations are open seven days a week — 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends — and along with direct billing to insurance companies,

they specialize in Deep Tissue Massage to promote healing when dealing with injury, or simply to relax and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

As well as a wide-range of massage services, Advanced Massage Therapy also now has a registered doctor on staff that knows all about Chinese herbal medicines and offers traditional services like acupuncture and fire cupping massage.

Go to [advanced-massage.ca](http://advanced-massage.ca) to see all the services Advanced Massage Therapy offers and to book an appointment.



CONTRIBUTED



**ADVANCED  
MASSAGE THERAPY**

## WE INTERRUPT THIS NEWSPAPER FOR AN IMPORTANT

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Stretching Massage  
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Deep Tissue Massage  
Hot Stone Massage  
Trigger Point Massage

Myofascial Release  
Acupuncture  
Laser Therapy



**Advanced Massage Therapy | [www.advanced-massage.ca](http://www.advanced-massage.ca) | Corydon Ave – (204) 474-2020 Grant Ave – (204) 474-5151**

# 'EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO LOOK YOUR BEST'

Already Winnipeg's largest bridal boutique, LA Collection is attracting customers from across the country and is proud to have been voted the top Bridal salon in Western Canada.

LA Collection's upscale boutique at 1365 Portage Avenue has the province's widest selection of wedding gowns, bridesmaid, graduation, evening, and formal wear, and with over 45 designers — including five exclusive only to them — it's a one-stop-shop for your special event.

"We can dress you from head to toe here at LA Collection," says LA Collection's office assistant and bridal consultant, Tanys Garrioch. "And it doesn't stop at your dress — we sell shoes, veils, earrings, necklaces, hair pieces and more — we have everything you need to look your best."

With 17 years of experience, LA Collection knows how to treat brides-to-be right. The 8,400 sq-ft. boutique has a full service bridal salon that includes a VIB room (that stands for Very Important Bride, of course), which gives brides and their entourage a personal and private shopping experience.

LA Collection has over 2,500 styles in stock, and with wedding gowns ranging in

price from \$300 to \$5,000 they've got the perfect gown for every bride and every budget. They also offer a well-trained and professional sales staff of up to 15 ready to help even during peak busy times, and onsite alterations to make sure your dream dress is a perfect fit.

"We really do it all, and our customers aren't shy about letting us and their friends know," says Garrioch, noting the shop has 122 people talking about them on Google with a rating of 4.3 stars and 155 Facebook reviews with a rating 4.4 stars on the social media site. "Our goal is always to make sure every one of our customers leave completely satisfied with their LA Collection experience."

LA collection is also the number one stop for anyone shopping for a prom dress, thanks to a special policy that ensures the graduation dress of choice cannot be purchased again by someone at the same school.

They also won the 2014, 2015, & 2016 top choice award for Top Bridal Boutique and also the Consumer Choice Award in 2016.

Go to [lacollection.ca](http://lacollection.ca) or visit their Facebook: LA Collection Bridal for more information and to see pictures of LA Collection's gorgeous salon.



CONTRIBUTED



David Tutera



Manitoba's Largest Upscale Bridal  
and one of the  
Top Salons in Western Canada

**204.944.8883**  
**1365 Portage Ave.**



[www.lacollection.ca](http://www.lacollection.ca)

LA Collection Bridal

# PETE'S PLACE: GROWING, BUT NOT CHANGING

After a successful year in 2016 Pete's Place Family Restaurant may see some changes in 2017.

But don't worry — their dedication to making home-cooked favourites won't change.

"Everything's always going to be made from scratch," says Samantha Vlahos, who runs the restaurant at 1777 Main St. with her husband Peter Vlahos. "But business grew a lot last year, and we hope to move forward and maybe do some renos in the in the next year or two."

Vlahos says the extent of the changes will depend on what's happening with the couple's family — they've got a son heading to university in 2019 and a daughter very involved in hockey — and as she says, family always comes first for the family-run business.

Last year customers voted to give Pete's Place Metro Winnipeg Community Choice Awards for best poutine, best hamburger, best overall restaurant, best Greek cuisine, best casual fine dining, and best breakfast, something Vlahos says helped to boost business.

"We're a local restaurant so it's nice that you have that support," she says, adding Pete's Place gives back by hiring youth from the area. "Young people can have a hard time finding a job because they need experience. We hire these kids and teach them work ethic and give them the foundation to pursue whatever they want in the future."

Go to [petesplacefamilyrestaurant.ca](http://petesplacefamilyrestaurant.ca) to pre-order for dine-in, take-out, or a catered event and like their Facebook page to stay up-to-date on everything they're up to.



CONTRIBUTED



*Community  
Choice Winner*

of the best:

Best Breakfast  
Best Greek Food  
Best Hamburger  
Best Casual Fine Dining  
Best Poutine  
Best Overall Restaurant

## Family First, always!

*That's why we make a home-cooked meal just for you!*

WINNER



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Catering your event.

Homestyle breakfast  
served until 2 pm Sat/Sun.



Visit us on Facebook to see our daily specials and delicious food. We love customer feedback, Like us!



Pete's Place is located at: 1777 Main Street (204) 339-7225  
Hours: M-T 11-9 pm, W-Sun 8-9 pm [Petesplacefamilyrestaurant.ca](http://Petesplacefamilyrestaurant.ca)

Three-time Olympic short-track speedskating medallist Isabelle Charest has been named Canada's chef de mission for the 2018 Winter Olympics

## TENNIS

### Shapovalov fined for ball to ump's face

Canadian tennis player Denis Shapovalov was fined \$7,000 US by the International Tennis Federation on Monday for his on-court actions in a Davis Cup match against Britain a day earlier.

The 17-year-old from Richmond Hill, Ont., lost via default in the deciding match of the World Group first-round tie at TD Place after unintentionally striking chair umpire Arnaud Gabas in the eye with a ball.



**Denis Shapovalov**  
GETTY IMAGES

After firing a backhand wide to give up a break to Kyle Edmund early in the third set, Shapovalov pulled out the extra ball from his pocket and launched it in frustration. Gabas was struck near the left eye and referee Brian Earley declared an immediate default for unsportsmanlike conduct.



**I promise that I will learn from this and that this will not happen again. I hope you guys can forgive me.**

@denis\_shapo

"There is no excuse for this behaviour and I take full responsibility for my action," Shapovalov said Monday in a statement on Twitter. "I'm very sorry to Mr. Gabas to whom I apologized in person. Very sorry for letting my Davis Cup teammates down and for letting my country down."

Gabas had swelling and bruising under his eye and was taken to Ottawa General Hospital. A precautionary evaluation did not find any damage to the cornea or retina.

Edmund was given a 6-3, 6-4, 2-1 victory as Britain advanced to the World Group quarter-finals with the 3-2 win. Canada will be forced to play a World Group playoff tie to keep its spot at the elite level for 2018.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## The real difference maker

### NFL

### Brady will be remembered most for lifting Pats to titles

With a record five Super Bowl rings, Tom Brady certainly has established himself as the measuring stick for quarterbacks, NFL players and, just maybe, for all team-sport athletes.

The difference in the Patriots being 5-2 or even 0-7 in the big game is infinitesimal. That difference is the guy wearing No. 12.

Brady proved that again Sunday with an epic comeback that, at 39, some might think puts a caper on a Hall of Fame career. Except that he plans to return to work soon in preparation of another NFL season, with probably a few more to follow.

"I don't feel 39. I hang out with a bunch of 20-year-olds," he joked Monday morning before walking out of the Super Bowl MVP news conference with the silver football that serves as the award for the honour. "That makes you feel pretty young."

That Brady might be around for a while could make the rest of the NFL feel pretty down, and at least when it comes to the playoffs and Super Bowl, it should. Consider that he's won 25 post-season games; there are pro baseball, basketball and hockey players who would take that for a career.

Brady will be remembered most not for deflated footballs but for the way he has pumped up the Patriots in the most stress-

filled circumstances. Sunday's 34-28 win over Atlanta in the first Super Bowl to go to overtime is the latest, and perhaps the most emphatic, example. But it's educational to look at all seven of his performances in the NFL championship game.

And you can compare his work to that of New England's coaching staff, which, it can be argued, has not come through nearly as well over the course of those seven contests and five titles.

Despite the Patriots' back-to-back championships in 2004 and 2005, there's a case to be made that both the Panthers' John Fox and the Eagles' Andy Reid were at least Bill Belichick's equal until Brady turned things New England's way.

4

Brady now has four Super MVP awards to his name.

The two upset defeats at the hands of the Giants, particularly in 2008 when the Patriots were seeking an undefeated season, could have gone New England's way, of course. But Tom Coughlin and his assistants, particularly defensive co-ordinator Steve Spagnuolo in 2008, outwitted the Patriots.

In 2015, Brady took charge against Seattle's superb defence with the fourth quarter belonging to him. But if not for what many believe is the worst play call in NFL championship game history — no, Marshawn, we're going to throw from the Patriots

Tom Brady won his fifth Super Bowl championship on Sunday night in Houston.

RONALD MARTINEZ/  
GETTY IMAGES

1 - y a r d line — Pete Carroll's Seahawks would likely have won a second straight Super Bowl.

Then there is Sunday night's "miraculous" comeback, to use Brady's word. And the stunning collapse by Atlanta, which had a first down at the New England 22 and a chance to, at the very least, move an eight-point lead to 11 late in the fourth period. It's almost never wise to play for a field goal against Brady, but that was one time to do so. The Falcons didn't.

So Brady, helped by a stunning reception by Julian Edelman, guided the Patriots to the tying scores. And then to the winning TD in overtime.

No one is saying the Patriots didn't earn each of their Super Bowl wins — and losses. It's an absolute, however, that when praise for everyone in the organization is handed out, Brady must be far in front of the rest of the line. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



### SOCIAL MEDIA

### Pats' win earns fan a date with Bouchard

Forget the Lombardi Trophy. The New England Patriots' shocking comeback win over the Atlanta Falcons in Super Bowl 51 earned one fan a date with Canadian tennis star Eugenie Bouchard.

With the Falcons holding a big lead over the Patriots Sunday, Bouchard tweeted that she "knew Atlanta would win."

A fan then asked her to go on a date if the Patriots somehow ended up winning and in what must have seemed like a low-risk reply, Bouchard said, "sure."



**Eugenie Bouchard** GETTY IMAGES

Her final tweet of the night was one of resignation, "Lesson learned. Never bet against Tom Brady." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### IN BRIEF

#### Ex-CFL coach to attend Warner's HOF induction

John Gregory's summer schedule now includes a trip to Canton, Ohio.

The former CFL head coach will attend the 2017 Pro Football Hall of Fame induction ceremony, keeping a promise he made to Kurt Warner when he became a finalist. Gregory told his former quarterback he'd be there when Warner was formally inducted.

Warner will be enshrined Aug. 5. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### TEXAS

### Help sought to find Brady's 'stolen' jersey

Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick is asking the state's top law enforcement officers to help locate Tom Brady's missing game jersey, which disappeared from the New England Patriots' locker room after the Super Bowl.

The Republican said in a statement Monday that Brady's jersey "was stolen" after the Patriots beat the Atlanta Falcons 34-28 at Houston's NRG Stadium on Sunday night, and that city police were already investigating.

Patrick said Texas places "a very high value on hospitality and football," adding: "It is important that history does not record" that Brady's jersey was stolen in the state.

He continued: "Whoever took this jersey should turn it in" since the "Texas Rangers are on the trail."

Brady said after the game that the jersey was missing and joked that he expects to see it soon in an online auction.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAKE IT TONIGHT

# Cosy Beef and Mushroom Stew



PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**  
For Metro Canada

All this needs is a side of mashed potatoes to cosy up to.

**Ready in 1 hour 20 minutes**  
Serves 4

## Ingredients

- 2 lb stewing beef
- 2 Tbsp flour
- Salt and pepper
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 2 onions, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 lb mushrooms, halved or quartered, depending on size
- 2 large carrots, diced
- 2 sprigs fresh thyme
- 1/3 cup tomato paste
- 1/2 cup white or red wine (optional)
- 4 cups beef broth

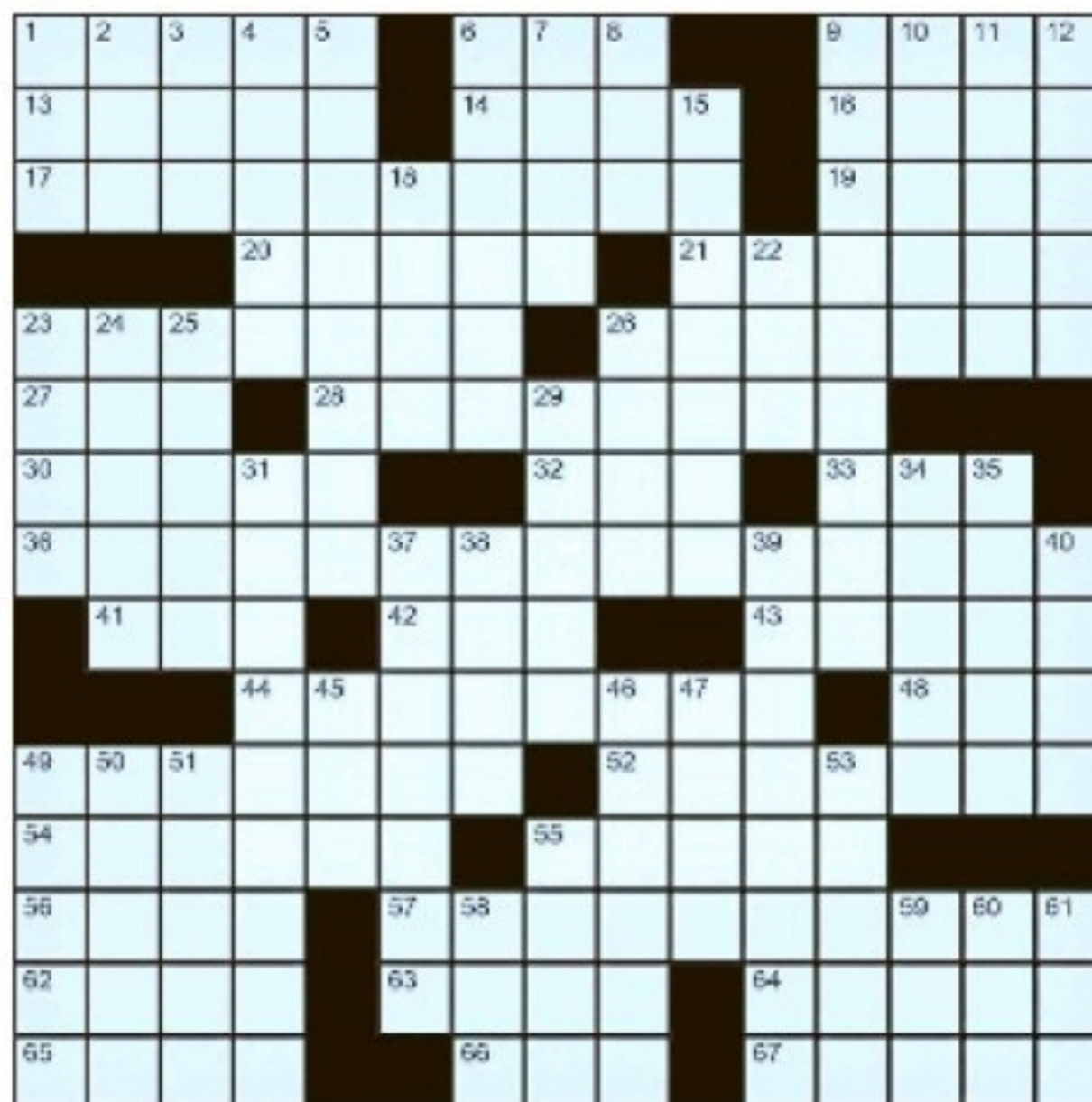
## Directions

1. Shake flour onto plate and season with salt and pepper. Dredge meat through the flour.
2. In a big pot or dutch oven, warm olive oil over medium heat. Brown meat in batches. Place cooked meat on a clean plate.
3. Add onion and garlic and sauté 3 minutes. Toss in mushrooms and thyme and cook another 5 minutes. Add tomato paste and stir well. Cook for a couple of minutes.
4. Add wine. Use wooden spoon to scrape bottom of the pot to loosen up all caramelized beefy goodness. Add stock and beef, bring it to a simmer, cover and simmer about an hour. Now add carrots and cook 10 minutes. Serve over mashed potatoes.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT  
SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

# CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



## ACROSS

1. "I'll have \_\_\_ salad sandwich, please." (Lunchtime order)
6. Walther \_\_\_ (James Bond firearm)
9. 'Photosynth' suffix
13. Sister: French
14. Banff National Park creatures
16. Pound sound
17. Adrien Brody's Oscar-winning role movie: 2 wds.
19. Great Lake
20. \_\_\_ Arizona
21. Royal court entertainer
23. German state bordering Austria
26. Victoria-born singer/songwriter Nelly
27. "Cold Mountain" (2003) role
28. 20th-century Spanish artist Mr. Dali
30. "That'll get done", in radio communication
32. 'Fluor' finisher
33. Alias indicator
36. Team Wayne Gretzky was traded to (from the Edmonton Oilers) in 1988: 3 wds.
41. Ott. NHL player
42. 'Excess' suffix
43. Torpid
44. Mechanic's outfit
48. Pastureland
49. One extending a membership
52. Fan's rare audio of a rock concert
54. Python slayer in mythology
55. Harbour haulage
56. Ipsos Reid

- specialty
57. College society
62. Stagnate
63. Most preferred, for short
64. Jubilant, in verse
65. Ownership document
66. Marry
67. Retail complexes

## DOWN

1. 'Bomb' add-on (Pompous talk)
2. Form of stage show in Japan
3. "Aaai-!!!" (Comic book scream)
4. Dr. Sanjay \_\_\_ (CNN's Chief Medical Correspondent)

5. Scottish documentarian who founded the National Film Board of Canada in 1939, John \_\_\_ (b.1898 - d.1972)
6. Corresponding chum: 2 wds.
7. Ballet move
8. Initials-sharers of Kendall Jenner's

- older sisters
9. Meticulous work woe, perhaps
10. Mattress brand
11. Nicki Minaj song: 2 wds.
12. 'I hope', to Caesar
15. Nunavut: Igloo-shaped attraction in

- Iqaluit, \_\_\_ Anglican Cathedral
18. "What \_\_\_ mind reader?"
22. 'Ranch' suffix
23. Wail
24. "Good-bye!"
25. Waltz, in Paris
26. Lose colour, as jeans
29. More repulsive
31. Invalidated
34. Solemn bell sound
35. Concur
37. Emit: 2 wds.
38. By any chance?
39. Unit of weight in Canada
40. Male deer
45. Stealth bird
46. Declined
47. Mythology
49. Sort of transit
50. Lyric poem
51. \_\_\_ prosequi (Not proceeding, in law)
53. Polynesian archipelago kingdom
55. Prehistoric paintings place, perhaps
58. Not cooked, as meat
59. \_\_\_-defined
60. Address book abbr.
61. Go-ahead response

# \* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

**Aries** March 21 - April 20  
Avoid domestic arguments today, because they will easily arise — especially with a female relative. People are touchy, emotional and volatile. You have been warned.

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21  
This is a classic day for arguments with others, especially siblings, relatives and neighbors. This angry energy might cause you to have an accident. Be careful.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21  
Disputes about money and possessions are likely today. They could relate to something at home or to a female relative. Either way, tread carefully.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23  
Today the Moon is in your sign, which makes you more emotional than usual. On top of that, it is at odds with fiery Mars. This is a challenging day! Remain calm so to avoid disputes with others.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23  
This is a restless day. There's no doubt that you feel impatient with others. You might not speak up, but inside you are secretly gritting your teeth. Easy does it.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23  
People are quarrelsome today. When talking to a friend or perhaps a member of a group, you must tread carefully. Don't go looking for trouble, because it will find you.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23  
Be careful when talking to authority figures today, especially your mother or a female boss. The bottom line is that people are emotionally volatile today, and they will react without thinking first. Be cool.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22  
Avoid controversial subjects like politics, religion and racial issues today, because things will go south in a New York minute. Don't try to win or keep score. Just keep the peace.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21  
Choose another day to discuss how to divide an inheritance or share something with someone, because a discussion will quickly deteriorate into a fight.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20  
You have to go more than halfway when dealing with others, because this is a dicey day. Frankly, things are not going your way. Just tread water.

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19  
Be patient with co-workers and customers today, especially female acquaintances. Don't get your belly in a rash.

**Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20  
Parents will have to be patient with their kids today. Likewise, romantic partners must be patient with each other, because it's a quarrelsome day! Easy does it.

## CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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Medical Office Assistant\*  
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Nursing Assistant  
Pharmacy Technician

#### **Faculty of Business**

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Accounting Specialist  
Administrative Professional\*  
Business Administration  
Legal Assistant\*  
Logistics & Supply Chain Management\*  
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